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STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1957



STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health, I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the Stone Urban District for the year 1957.

Whilst more definite information concerning the work of the Public Health Department during the year is given in the various tables and statistics in the body of the Report, there are several items which should be noted :-

1. A decrease in the population from 8,860 to 8,820.
2. Decrease in the total number of deaths in the area from 164 (1956) to 146 (1957).
3. Decrease in the number of deaths in the area from Coronary Disease from 18 in 1956 to 13 in 1957.
4. Decrease in the number of deaths in the area from Bronchitis from 15 in 1956 to 5 in 1957.
5. The figures for deaths in the area from malignancy of the lung are the same as for 1956 - namely 3.
6. Slum Clearance has progressed satisfactorily. The five year programme being now nearing completion.

You may recall that when I presented my 1956 Annual Report to the Public Health Committee, and when they had considered the number of deaths due to Cancer, they suggested that some useful information as to the cause of the disease might become available if the disease could be made notifiable to the Local Authority.

In compliance with their directions, I communicated with the Minister of Health regarding the above suggestion. I received a reply stating that a somewhat similar scheme was in operation (Birmingham Regional Cancer Registration Scheme) and it should be soon in a position to supply detailed information regarding deaths from any specific Cancer in a given area as suggested by the Public Health Committee. This, I believe, may help in dealing with the problem.

I wish to record my appreciation of the continued assistance which I have received from the members of the Public Health Committee and also to thank the Clerk of the Council and all members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the co-operation and support which I have received from them during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.J. MURRAY

Medical Officer of Health.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

F.J. Murray D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur M.B., B.CH

Senior Public Health Inspector
(Also Engineer and Surveyor)

E.W.E. Hall
A.R.I.C.S., M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H

Additional Public Health Inspector

W.A. Stocker
Cert.S.I.B. Certified Meat Inspector

Clerks

Miss P. Downs
Miss S. Grocott

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (In Acres)	1,921
Population (General Registrar)	8,820
Number of inhabited houses and flats	2,856
Population density per house	3.09
Rateable Value	£88,477
Sum represented by a penny rate	£340

INDUSTRIES

Boots and Shoes	Electrical Insulators
Brewing	Tiles
Scientific and Industrial Glassware	Rubber Mouldings
Farms	Light Industries

NOTES ON STATISTICS.

Population. The population of the Area is 8,820 which is a decrease of 40 on the figure given for 1956.

Births. The number of live births in the Area for 1957 totalled 100 which is 16 less than the number in 1956. This gives a live birth rate for the Area of 11.3. The figure for England and Wales is 16.1. The number of still births in the Area for 1957 was 3 which is 1 less than the figure for 1956 (4).

Deaths. The total number of deaths (including Inward Transferable deaths) in the Area for 1957 from all causes amounts to 146. This gives a death rate of 16.5. The figure for England and Wales was 11.5. The total number of Stone inhabitants who died during the year totalled 97 (including Inward Transferable deaths) - against 115 in 1956 - which gives a death rate for Stone Urban District of 10.9.

Infant Deaths. The number of children who died under the age of 1 year in the Area amounted to 6 of which 3 were under 4 weeks old.

Notifiable and Infectious Diseases. 50 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year against 9 which was the number for 1956. The main difference between these figures being caused by the number of cases of Measles notified, namely 33 (none being notified in 1956). Table IV gives the complete list of confirmed Infectious Diseases - except for the number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis which are given in Table V.

National Assistance Act. No action was taken under this Act during 1957.

Food Poisoning. 2 outbreaks of Food Poisoning occurred during the year but immediate notification by the General Practitioners in charge of the cases and prompt action by the Public Health Inspector prevented the infection from spreading.

Vital Statistics. These figures give particulars of Births and Deaths in the Area and are compared with the figures for England and Wales.

	Live Births		Still Births		Deaths of infants under 1yr.		Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age.	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Legitimate.	47	50	1	2	3	3	2	1
Illegitimate.	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
	48	52	1	2	3	3	2	1

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Causes.
excluding abortion.

Due to abortion.

Total Maternal Mortality

Deaths in Stone U.D.C.	Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births in Stone U.D.C.
Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil

Birth and Death Rate.

Comparability Factors.

Births 0.98

Deaths 0.65

	Stone U.D.	Eng. & Wales.
Live Births per 1,000 population	11.3	16.1
Live Births per 1,000 population adjusted	11.0	-
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	29.1	22.5
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	16.5	11.5
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	10.7	-
Death rate, infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births	6.0	23.1
Death rate, infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 Live Births	3.0	16.5

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningo-coccal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	6	8	14
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	21	33
18. Coronary disease, angina	9	4	13
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	2	5
20. Other heart disease	9	10	19
21. Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	1	2	3
24. Bronchitis	3	2	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	3	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	12	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
34. All other accidents	4	3	7
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals	64	82	146

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1957.

DISEASE.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.	1956
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	1	7	-	-	8	3
Measles.	1	7	25	-	33	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia. Acute Primary.	-	-	-	-	-	2
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis. Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis. Non-Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	1	-
Meningococcal Infection.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	2	1	-	3	-

FOOD POISONING

No. of Outbreaks.	No. of Cases Notified.	Actual No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each.	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each.
2	3	3	Nil	1-Salmonella 2-Staphylococci Aureus	Unknown Brawn

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register 31st December, 1956.	27	13	1	1
New Cases notified or transferred in.	4	3	-	-
Total.	31	16	1	1
Deaths.	-	-	-	-
Removed on transfer out or recovery.	5	2	-	-
Total Removed.	5	2	-	-
Total remaining on Register at 31st December, 1957.	26	14	1	1

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA.

The following table summaries the inspections made during the year
for all purposes :-

	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>	<u>Notices Informal.</u>	<u>Statutory.</u>
Drainage	151	3	1
Water Supply	25	7	1
Refuse Collection and Disposal	148	18	4
Improvement Grants	120	-	-
Dwelling Houses - Repairs	275	25	3
" " - Demolition	49	-	-
" " - Slum Clearance	588	-	-
Housing Applications and Overcrowding	197	-	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds	10	-	-
Canal Boats	10	-	-
Infectious Diseases	11	-	-
Verminous and Dirty Premises	21	-	-
Insect Control	128	-	-
Rodent "	22	-	-
Keeping of Animals	6	-	-
Pet Animals Act	-	-	-
Factories	8	-	-
Workplaces	2	-	-
Outworkers	2	-	-
Means of Escape (Factories)	77	7	-
Petroleum Storage	44	-	-
Smoke Abatement	14	3	-
Schools	6	2	-
Shops (Health Provisions)	10	-	-
Private Slaughterhouses -			
Meat Inspection	492	-	-
Butchers Shops	15	3	-
Ice Cream Premises	45	-	-
Dairies	10	-	-
Cafes, Canteens	16	-	-
Food Poisoning	8	-	-
Foodshops and Licenced Premises	222	10	-
Rent Act 1957	30	-	-
Miscellaneous	134	11	-
	2,896	89	9

1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Samples of the effluent discharged from the Sewage Disposal Works have been taken by the County Health Department and all have complied with the standard suggested by the Royal Commission.

Details of soil and storm sewage 1953-57:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Soil sewage treated at Disposal Works Gallons.</u>	<u>Storm water treated at Pumping Station Gallons.</u>	<u>Total Gallons</u>	<u>Rainfall</u>
1953	160,102,650+	8,649,280+	168,751,930	25.80
1954	196,430,500+	20,882,800	217,313,300	35.8
1955	159,947,000	10,998,560	170,945,560	27.7
1956	155,283,000+	9,788,360	165,071,360	26.98
1957	199,933,000	11,602,760	211,535,760	29.99

+ Includes an estimated quantity for a few days during which meters were not operating. The number of days when this occurred are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Storm</u>
1953	5	40
1954	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	-
1956	2	-

Approval has been received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Staffordshire County Council for the construction of the six additional sludge drying beds. Work is now in progress on this Scheme and the additional drying beds will be brought into use in January, 1958.

As a result of constant supervision at the Sewage Disposal Works it has been possible to maintain the standard of the effluent discharged.

2. Drainage.

The detailed supervision of all drainage works has been continued, in connection with repairs and improvements to existing system and also of new work. The use of pitch-fibre drain pipes has been commenced in this district.

3. Pail Closets and Septic Tank.

There are now 14 houses with pail closets and 23 houses with septic tanks in the area. 4 Council houses in Eccleshall Road, Walton, were converted from pail closets to water closets on a new septic tank system.

The pail closet emptying service was maintained.

4. Water Supply.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board provide the water supply for the town. The excellent bacteriological quality has been maintained during the year. Reports on samples taken are regularly submitted by the Board.

A water main extension scheme was carried out to provide four Council houses in Eccleshall Road, Walton with main water. The houses have had a complete plumbing system installed, including hot and cold water supplied with a storage tank and cylinder.

25 visits were made to premises in connection with water supply.

New supplies during 1957 - 47 new houses or bungalows were connected to the mains.

5. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Two vehicles are now operated on this service and a weekly collection is maintained.

The second area of land to be reclaimed by refuse tipping at Westbridge Park has now been filled up and preliminary levelling by bulldozer and scraper carried out. This area is now ready for conversion to further playing fields.

A new refuse tip was brought into use at Abbey Street, but this land is only suitable for winter use. It will be necessary to acquire further land in the district for refuse disposal.

Refuse Collection and Disposal (Continued).

During the year the supply of covering material was reasonably maintained from road works and the demolition of properties under the Slum Clearance Scheme.

Salvage. The collection and disposal of waste paper, containers and rags has been maintained. Scrap iron and other metals are separated and salvaged, but metal containers(cans) are not recovered.

Table of Salvage Disposal

	<u>1.1.57 to 31.12.57</u>			£.	s.	d.
	T.	C.	Q.			
Waste Paper & Cardboard	114	15	0	814	17	7
Rags	3	19	2	79	12	0
Scrap Iron	8	12	0	46	10	0
	127	6	2	940	19	7

HOUSING

6. 23 houses and 12 bungalows were completed during 1957. A further Contract for 10 houses, 15 bungalows and 4 flats was prepared and put in hand, but full possession of the site was not obtained and work in progress relates only to 2 houses, 15 bungalows and 4 flats.

During the year 32 housing units of new and existing dwelling accommodation were again provided for slum clearance purposes. Site works have commenced on one private housing estate in the area. This estate has a potential value of 40 housing units.

Application for Improvement Grants continue to be made and are granted by the Authority. This scheme appears only to attract owner/occupiers.

Table 1 - Number of houses erected during the year:-

(i)	By Local Authority	23 houses	12 bungalows
(ii)	" other Local Authorities	3 "	
(iii)	" private enterprise	5 "	2 "
(iv)	" Ministry of Supply	Nil	
Total		31 "	14 "

Table 2 - Number of houses owned by the Council on the 31st December, 1957, built under the provisions of the various Housing Acts.

Erected during the years 1919 - 1940	-	276 (and remaining in the Council's possession).
1947	-	10
1948	-	72
1949	-	56
1950	-	20
1951	-	6
1952	-	28
1953	-	86
1954	-	54
1955	-	32 + 4 flats
1956	-	71 + 4 houses transferred
1957	-	35
Total Houses, Flats and Bungalows		754

7. Inspection and repair of dwelling houses.

During the year 33 informal and 8 statutory notices were served for repairs in private houses. These notices were complied with and the work satisfactorily carried out.

Inspection.

1.	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts)	241
	(b) Number of inspections made for the above purpose	380
2.	Original number of houses in 1-5 years slum clearance programme (NOTE: A further 18 houses have been included in this programme)	122
3.	Properties demolished or closed in 1956 and 1957	87
4.	Remaining occupied in 1-5 years programme ...	35
5.	Number of houses remaining in the 5-20 years programme	295

Remedy of Defects.

Number of houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of formal action ... 3

Number of dwelling houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of informal action 16

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit or improved in consequence of voluntary action by owner 15

8. Demolition of dwelling houses.

The 1-5 years slum clearance programme was implemented during the year and the necessary accommodation made available for re-housing displaced families. Every effort was made to house families in the particular area of the town and in the type of accommodation they requested.

Number of houses demolished as a result of
formal action 18

Further statutory Demolition Orders
served (property to be demolished in the
following year) 24 (Closed pending
demolition).

Closing Orders made under Section 11 of the
Housing Act 1936 and Section 10 of the
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 8

9. Overcrowding and rehousing.

Allocation of new units have been primarily made for slum clearance tenants and the remaining new units have been allocated under the points system. 20 Council houses became vacant during the year and these were re-allocated mainly under the points system.

10. Moveable Dwellings.

One area of land was again used without consent for the parking of caravans. Statutory Notices were served on the owner of the land and the caravaners. The site was eventually cleared.

Two canal barges were registered following their conversion at the Stone Boat Yard of the British Waterways Authority.

Private canal cruising boats are hired out for holiday travel by a Stone Company. A fair number of pleasure craft now use the Trent and Mersey Canal during the summer.

11. Dirty and Verminous Premises.

Visits were made to 3 dirty houses and the necessary instruction and advice given to secure their cleansing.

12. Rodent Control.

Two treatments were carried out to the sewer system of the town, only minor infestations were found. Regular treatment of the Refuse Tip and other surface installations has been carried out.

Details of treatments other than sewers are as shown in the following table :-

	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Agric- ultural.	All other purposes.
<u>Rats.</u>				
Major infestations	1	Nil	Nil	1
Minor "	2	46	Nil	1
<u>Mice.</u>				
Major infestations.	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Minor "	Nil	9	Nil	9

13. Pet Animals Act.

One shop licence was renewed for this purpose. No contraventions occurred.

14. Factories.

Number on Register 40
Number of inspections for all purposes 85

Considerable effort was made to visit all factories not already provided with a Certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire under Section 34 of the Factories Act. At the end of the year only three factories had not been supplied with these Certificates.

15. Smoke Abatement.

Regular smoke observations were made during the year and verbal warnings issued where necessary. Three written notices were served.

16. Shops Act.

- (a) Regular visits to shops in the area have been maintained.
- (b) 252 inspections were carried out. A separate Shops Act Report has been submitted to the Council.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

17. Meat Inspection.

The annual licences for three private slaughterhouses were renewed and regular inspection is carried out at these slaughterhouses. The meat produced is retailed in three private Butchers' Shops. The remaining shops have their meat supplies delivered from adjoining areas.

All animals slaughtered are inspected as soon as possible. Their quality is generally very good.

Meat and Offals found unfit

1 Ton 14 Cwts 59lbs.

Number of Animals Slaughtered

<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
556	50	2293	385

Details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part are shown in the following table :--
PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	556	-	50	2293	385	-
Number inspected	556	-	50	2293	385	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u> Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	2	2	4	-
Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned	144	-	-	64	13	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	25.9%	-	4%	2.9%	4.4%	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only:</u> Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	2	-
Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned	27	-	-	-	12	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.7%	-	-	-	3.6%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some organ or part was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cysticercus Bovis

Five bullocks were found to be infested with this parasite. In all cases the offal was destroyed and the carcasses subjected to low temperature treatment at the Stoke-on-Trent Cold Store.

Bovine livers were found to be much affected by Fascioliasis and represent almost all of the offal found unfit for human consumption.

There was again a decrease in the percentage of cattle infected with Tuberculosis.

All meat surrendered as unfit is coloured green and either forwarded for animal feeding products or destroyed at the refuse tip.

18. Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered for sale of pre-packed
ice cream at 31st December, 1957 23

Number of the above actually selling ice cream ... 18

Number of new registrations during the year Nil

All premises in the district sell pre-packed ice cream.
Throughout the year samples were submitted regularly for
bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :-

Provisional Grade 1	31 samples
" " 2	Nil "
" " 3	" "
" " 4	" "

These results are highly satisfactory as all samples were
up to standard.

19. Milk.

During the year the County Authority have taken the following
samples in this area:-

Samples for bacteriological examination	- 80
" " biological test for tuberculosis-	7

All the ▼ samples tested for tuberculosis proved negative
and those submitted for bacteriological examination were
satisfactory. 2 samples failed the Methylene Blue Test.

20. Inspection of Food Handling Premises.

Frequent routine visits have been made to all food premises,
with particular regard to food hygiene. Six notices were served to
implement the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and
all work required was satisfactorily carried out. Several
warnings were given about smoking in food premises. Modernisation
of several shop premises has been carried out, including the
provision of refrigerated display counters.

21. Inspection of Food (Excluding Meat at Slaughterhouses).

The following are the total amounts of food other than
meat at slaughterhouses, voluntary surrender of which has been
accepted :-

Imported Meat, Canned Meat and Meat Products	166 lbs.
Other Foods	194 lbs.

